


# Classic Design

*Landscaping to protect and conserve Austin's water*

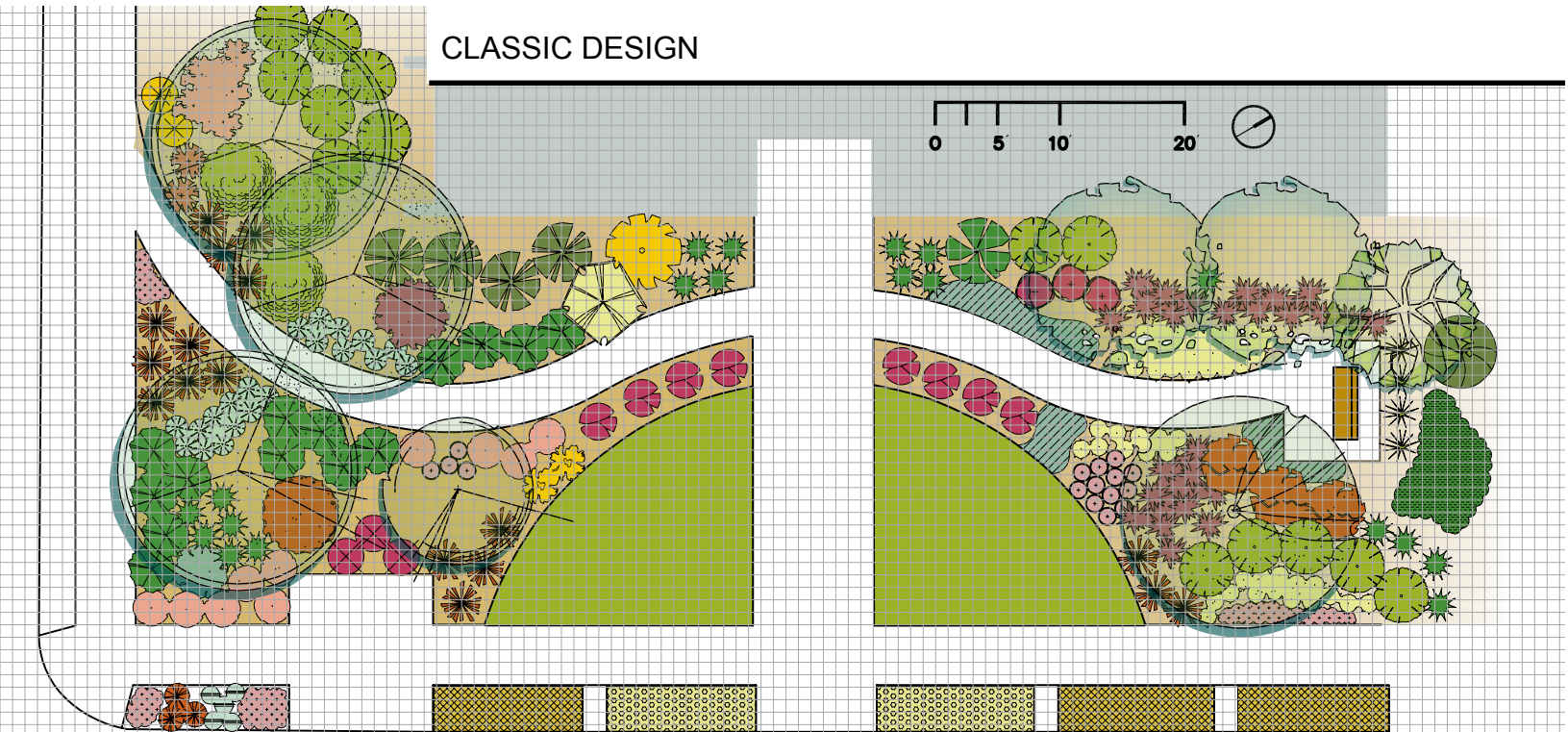
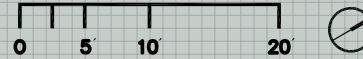
Demonstration garden located at: **Howson Library, 2500 Exposition Boulevard, Austin, Texas**



A photograph of the Howson Library landscape. On the left, a building with a red roof and columns is partially visible. A gravel path leads from the foreground towards the background. The path is flanked by various plants, including a large bush with yellow flowers on the left and a bush with red flowers on the right. In the background, there are trees and a parking lot. A text box in the upper right corner provides information about the landscape's history and features.

In 2004 the Howson Library landscape featured St. Augustine turf and just a few plants. The redesigned "green" landscape shows that a yard can be attractive and water conserving while still maintaining the feel of a traditional garden. The rainwater harvesting system which was added in 2009 is expected to provide an even greater reduction in water use.

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## plant key

trees	shrubs	perennials	groundcovers
wax myrtle	dwarf yaupon holly	flowering senna	katie's dwarf ruellia
anacacho orchid	cenizo	martha gonzales rose	leadwort plumbago
mountain laurel	upright rosemary	oleander	leadwort plumbago, bulbine, blackfoot daisy
crape myrtle	prostrate rosemary	agarita	liriope
live oak	mutabilis rose	dwarf barbados cherry	zoysiagrass
	patrick's abutilon	abelia	leadwort plumbago, bulbine
		zexmenia	
		rock rose	
		texas betony	
		mountain pea	
		purple coneflower	
		bicolor iris	
		mexican bush sage	
		pink skullcap	
		plumbago	
		autumn sage	
		bulbine	
		gregg mistflower	
			'new gold' lantana
			purple heart
			dwarf variegated liriope
			giant liriope
			<b>cacti &amp; succulents</b>
			red yucca

### *Light:*

South side: Sun (left or south side)

North side: Shade (right or north side)

### *Soil Needs:*

- Amend existing soil with 2-3" of compost
- Be sure that your total soil base is 6-8" deep
- If additional soil is needed, use a good quality soil mix (approximately 25% compost, 65% loam and 10% sand)

### *Water Needs:*

Once established:

- Zoysia Grass and Roses: Water thoroughly every 2-3 weeks if no rainfall
- Remaining Plants: Water thoroughly every 3-4 weeks if no rainfall

### *Irrigation:*

- Hand-watering is recommended
- If you must use an irrigation system...  
Use bubblers for the beds and spray heads for the grassy area. Putting irrigation in the median between the curb and sidewalk is not recommended in a home landscape. It is best to choose mulch or non-plant material to prevent irrigation over-spray
- If you reduce the amount of grass in your yard, reduce your watering times

[www.growgreen.org](http://www.growgreen.org)

### *Earth-Wise Gardening Tips:*

- Plant the right plant in the right place based on sunlight required
- Mulch all beds to retain water and reduce weeds
- Use St. Augustine grass only in shaded areas
- Reduce turf to meet your aesthetic or family needs because grass generally requires more water and chemicals to maintain
- Use pervious pavement that allows water to soak into the ground and/or the surrounding landscape, such as stone without mortar, mulch or pervious concrete
- Use rainbarrels to capture and reuse rainwater



### *Howson Redesign Fast Facts:*

#### **Pre-2004 Landscape Redesign:**

Water Usage:  
**37,000** gallons/month

#### **Post-2004 Landscape Redesign:**

Water Usage:  
**13,400** gallons/month



*For a driving or biking map to this and other demonstration gardens or for more earth-wise gardening tips, visit [www.growgreen.org](http://www.growgreen.org)*

*For water conserving tips and rebates, visit [www.waterwiseaustin.org](http://www.waterwiseaustin.org)*



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